

COLD STORAGE FOR EDMONTON

**Promoters of Project Negotiating
For Site in Close Proximity
to Railways.**

Negotiations are now in progress for the securing of property in Edmonton as a site for the erection of a most modern and fully equipped cold storage plant. The site must be close to the railway tracks of either the C.N.R. or G.T.P. main lines, so that a spur may be run in for the accommodation of the plant. It is understood that such a location is available and will shortly be secured if the cold storage scheme can be satisfactorily handled.

H. G. Nivn, of the Edmonton Produce Company, formerly a prominent commission merchant in Montreal, is one of the produce dealers in Edmon-

giving a great deal of attention to the erection of a cold storage plant in this city. He has recently returned from a trip down the C.N.R. line as far as Saskatoon, with the specific purpose of seeing just what produce is being offered. He found that a cold storage plant in Edmonton would successfully compete with Winnipeg in all the farm produce, such as butter, cheese, eggs, poultry, vegetables and meats, as far east as Vonda and along the Prince Albert branch of the C.N.R. At present most of the produce offered at Saskatoon goes to Winnipeg.

Produce Goes to Waste.

"Since my return from a trip along the C.N.R., said Mr. Nivlin to a Bulletin reporter, I have been thinking of a cold storage plant will mean great things for this city. After calling at all the principal points along the line, I am satisfied that tons and tons of fruit and vegetables go to waste every season, because there is no place to store it. Suggesting any local merchant gets stocked up with butter during a temporary glut in the market, he is forced to throw away the store it and the butter spoils on his hands, and he has to sell it for axle grease. With a cold storage plant

"Butter is only one item in the cold storage business. There is the egg,

Edmonton dealers would not have to be shipping eggs out in the summer time for low prices and paying high prices for eggs in the winter months. Potatoes are shipped out of the country in the fall at 30¢ per bushel and in the winter months at 31¢ per bushel. At present the people of Edmonton can only get fresh fish a few months in the year. The rivers, lakes, and creeks and rivers are teeming with fish. A few traders bring down magnificent quantities of wild game and fish. They have to be sold immediately or shipped out of the country. With a cold storage plant here, hundreds of fish could be stored for use in the summer months and for export at all

seasons of the year. The price of fish in Edmonton is three times in summer what it is in winter. It is the presence of the big cold storage plants at the coast, such as the one at Vancouver, which has built up the fish industry for the B.C. fishermen.

Solves Labor Problem.

Mr. Nivn argues that cheaper living in this city would be the natural consequence of the erection of a cold storage plant. California fruits and vegetables are shipped to the Hudson

"The agitation for a cold storage plant in Edmonton was the cause of the visit of J. A. Ruddick, Edmonton representative of the Canadian Cattle Raisers' Association," said Mr. Nlvin. "Mr. Ruddick told me there was no place in Canada that could profit more by a cold storage plant than Edmonton. He was a very convincing speaker. He said that there could be no problem of control here come under government control rather than be left to private enterprise. If a plant of sufficient magni-

under the provisions of the Dominion Cold Storage Act, would pay 36 per cent. of the original cost and keep the plant under government supervision, as to rates charged, sanitary conditions and general management. This offer of the government is only made to localities where no private cold storage already exists, so the opening in this city is very favorable.²¹

C. Marker, provincial dairy commissioner at Calgary, has also expressed himself as regards the necessity for a cold storage plant in Edmonton. The butter manufactured at the government creameries in the province is all taken into cold storage at Calgary. This means that butter as far east as Lloydminster is put into cars shipped through Edmonton to Calgary for cold storage and

to supply the local demand. With a plant in Edmonton, much of the output of northern government creameries would be put into storage in Edmonton.

"Local wholesalers and dealers

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